



Fee only

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hixon et al.

Serial No.: 10/777,994

Filed: February 12, 2004

For: EMBOSSING SYSTEM,
COMPONENTS THEREOF, AND
METHODS

Confirmation No.: 3319

Examiner: A. Evans

Group Art Unit: 2854

Attorney Docket No.: 2916-5035.1US

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

6/16/2005
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Signature

Brick G. Power
Name (Type/Print)

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed on March 16, 2005, the three-month shortened statutory period for response to which expires on June 16, 2005.

Amendments to the claims are set forth in the listing of the claims that begins on page 2 of this paper; and

Remarks start at page 10 of this paper.

Therefore, each of claims 36-38, 46, and 47 is drawn to subject matter that, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), is allowable over the subject matter taught or suggested by Woodman, Kitamura, the purportedly admitted prior art, and Benson.

Woodman, Kitamura, the Purportedly Admitted Prior Art, and Jaffin

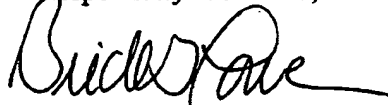
Claim 41 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for reciting subject matter which is assertedly unpatentable over that taught in Woodman, in view of teachings from Kitamura and, further, in view of the purportedly admitted prior art and the teachings of Jaffin.

Claim 41 is allowable, among other reasons, for depending indirectly from claim 31, which is allowable and, further, since Jaffin does not include any teaching or suggestion that would have motivated one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Woodman and Kitamura in the manner that has been asserted.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-20, 22-31, and 33-51 is allowable. An early notice of the allowability of each of these claims is respectfully solicited, as is an indication that the above-referenced application has been passed for issuance. If any issues preventing allowance of the above-referenced application remain which might be resolved by way of a telephone conference, the Office is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



Brick G. Power
Registration No. 38,581
Attorney for Applicants
TRASKBRITT, PC
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

Date: June 16, 2005